

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method for preventing lesions caused by a virus of the Herpesviridae or Poxviridae family, comprising ~~topically applying~~ applying to an area of the skin a composition consisting of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, a C1, a C2, or a C3 alcohol or a C2, C3, or C4 diol having a concentration of 0.2 to 13.0% by volume in water, and a sufficient amount of an acid to adjust the pH of said composition to between 2.45 and 4.6, wherein said composition is applied during symptoms of pain, itching, burning, or tingling.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said alcohol is selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, 1-propanol, and 2-propanol.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said alcohol is selected from the group consisting of 2,3-butanediol, 1,2-butanediol, 1,3-butanediol, and 1,4-butanediol.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 2, wherein said alcohol is ethanol.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said acid is an organic acid.

Claim 6 (Previously presented): The method of claim 5, wherein said organic acid selected from the group consisting of glycolic acid, lactic acid, succinic acid, malic acid, citric acid, and acetic acid.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said acid is an inorganic acid.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 7, wherein said acid is hydrochloric acid.

Claim 9 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the pH of said composition is 2.45.

Claims 10-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said virus is *Herpes simplex* 1.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said virus is *Herpes simplex* 2.

Claim 14 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said virus is *Varicella zoster* virus.

Claim 15 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said virus is *Molluscum contagiosum*.

Claim 16 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said composition is a preparation selected from the group consisting of a tincture, gel, ointment, cream, salve, lotion, lip balm, foam, spray, and aerosol.

Claim 17 (Currently amended): A method for preventing lesions caused by a virus of the Herpesviridae or Poxviridae family, comprising ~~topically applying~~ applying to an area of the skin a composition consisting of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, an alcohol having a concentration of 0.2 to 13.0% by volume in water, said alcohol selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, 1-propanol, 2-propanol, 2,3-butanediol, 1,2-butanediol, 1,3-butanediol, and 1,4-butanediol, and a sufficient amount of an acid to adjust the pH of the composition to between 2.45 and 4.6, wherein said acid is selected from the group consisting of glycolic acid, lactic acid, succinic acid, malic acid, citric acid, acetic acid, and hydrochloric acid, wherein said composition is applied during symptoms of pain, itching, burning, or tingling.

Claim 18 (Previously presented): The method of claim 17, wherein the pH of said composition is 2.45.

Claim 19 (Canceled).

Claim 20 (Original): The method of claim 17, wherein said virus resides in the dermis or epidermis of a human or animal infected by said virus.

Claim 21 (Previously presented): The method of claim 17, wherein said virus is *Herpes simplex 1*.

Claim 22 (Previously presented): The method of claim 17, wherein said virus is *Herpes simplex 2*.

Claim 23 (Previously presented): The method of claim 17, wherein said virus is *Varicella zoster* virus.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The method of claim 17, wherein said virus is *Molluscum contagiosum*.

Claim 25 (Previously presented): The method of claim 17, wherein said composition is a topical preparation selected from the group consisting of a tincture, gel, ointment, cream, salve, lotion, lip balm, foam, spray, and aerosol.

Claim 26 (Previously presented): A method for preventing lesions caused by a virus of the Herpesviridae or Poxviridae family, comprising topically applying a composition consisting a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, 10% by volume ethanol, and 0.6% by weight glycolic acid, wherein the pH of the combination is between 2.45 and 4.6, wherein said composition is applied during symptoms of pain, itching, burning, or tingling.